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January 22, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Executive Director
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Enrique McMilion, Jr. v. Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC
Docket Number: 2020-242-E

Dear Ms. Boyd:

I am filing this letter on behalf of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC (“DEC” or the “Company”) in response to the Commission’s request made at its business meeting on January 13, 2021, regarding whether Mr. McMilion’s meter was exchanged and, if so, when.

Because Mr. McMilion failed to enroll in the Manually Read Meter (“MRM”) Rider, his previous automated meter reading meter was replaced with an Advanced Metering Infrastructure or “smart” meter on October 12, 2020.¹ The meter exchange is discussed on pages 8 and 9 of Don Schneider’s direct testimony, which was filed with the Commission on December 22, 2020. While Mr. McMilion has requested the installation of an analog meter, analog meters are now obsolete, are no longer supported by the Company, and have not been manufactured by major manufacturers for some time.

As the Company has explained in prior filings in this docket, this is the fourth complaint related to Mr. McMilion’s aversion to smart meters filed since December 2018. The Company understands that the Office of Regulatory Staff’s (“ORS”) Consumer Services division conducted

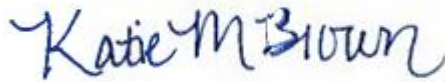
¹ While Mr. McMilion asserts that the meter was switched “on the Columbus day holiday while the ORS and SC.PSC were closed and could not be reached”—to the extent this assertion has any relevance to this proceeding—Columbus Day is not a South Carolina state holiday. See S.C. Code Ann. § 53-5-10. In fact, the Commission appears to have held a hearing on October 12, 2020 as related to Docket No. 2019-226-E.

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
January 22, 2021
Page 2

investigations into Mr. McMilion's issues in both July and November of 2018. Mr. McMilion's first three complaints were dismissed.² The MRM Rider—approved by the Commission by Order No. 2016-791 issued on November 17, 2016 in Docket No. 2016-354-E—continues to be available to Mr. McMilion, as does the fee-free medical opt-out option provided under that Rider approved by the Commission in the same docket by Order No. 2019-429 issued on June 12, 2019.

Mr. McMilion's deadline to file direct testimony in this docket was December 8, 2020, based upon a procedural schedule that was affirmed through Order No. 2020-794. Mr. McMilion failed to file testimony on or before that date, and, on December 22, 2020, the Company filed a Motion to Dismiss for his failure to prosecute his case. On January 13, 2021, the Commission granted Mr. McMilion an extension to file his testimony to January 20, 2021. Mr. McMilion has again failed to file testimony in compliance with the Commission's order. For that reason, the Company respectfully renews its Motion to Dismiss filed on December 22, 2020.

Sincerely,



Katie M. Brown

cc: Parties of record

² Order No. 2019-427, Docket No. 2018-379-E (June 12, 2019); Order No. 2019-686, Docket No. 2019-230-E (Sept. 25, 2019); and Order No. 2020-342, Docket No. 2019-331-E (June 30, 2020).